AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

counting ~~an untransmitted~~a silence frame to determine a count of silence frames at a receiving station;

determining a silence description frame at the receiving station ~~that includes the count of silence frames, wherein~~ the silence description frame ~~has~~ having a size equivalent to the size of an active frame, the silence description frame including:

a first pattern to differentiate the silence description frame from the active frame,

a packet that describes comfortable noise,

the count of silence frames, and

a second pattern to indicate an end of the silence description frame; and

storing the silence description frame.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving the active frame; and

storing the active frame.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising decoding a file comprising an active frame and the silence description frame.

4-5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said counting ~~an untransmitted~~a silence frame comprises determining a sequence of frames that comprises a silence frame.

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said determining a silence description frame comprises determining a frame to decode as an invalid frame.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said storing the silence description frame comprises storing the silence description frame adjacent to the active frame.

11.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a network interface to receive packets; ~~and~~

a silence description frame filer coupled to said network interface to determine a count of silence frames based on the received packets; and

a data storage device coupled to said silence description frame filer to store a silence description frame ~~that includes the count of silence frames~~, ~~wherein~~ the silence description frame ~~has~~ having a size equivalent to the size of an active frame~~.~~, the silence description frame including:

a first pattern to differentiate the silence description frame from the active frame,

a packet that describes comfortable noise,

the count of silence frames, and

a second pattern to indicate an end of the silence description frame.

12.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a decoder to decode a file comprising the active frame and the silence description frame.

13.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said network interface comprises a packet-switching interface.

14.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said silence description frame filer comprises a microprocessor coupled to said data storage device.

15.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said silence description frame filer comprises a microprocessor to count ~~an untransmitted~~ the silence frame~~s~~.

16.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said silence description frame filer comprises a microprocessor to determine the silence description frame.

17.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data storage device comprises a data storage controller coupled to said silence description frame filer.

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said data storage device comprises a memory device coupled to said silence description frame filer.

19.   (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
        a transmitting station including a variable-size packet transmitter to transmit packets; and
        a receiving station including a silence description frame filer coupled to said variable-size packet transmitter to receive the packets and to store a silence description frame, the silence description frame that includes a count of silence frames and hashaving a size equivalent to the size of an active frame-, the silence description frame including:
                a first pattern to differentiate the silence description frame from the active frame,
                a packet that describes comfortable noise,
                the count of silence frames, and
                a second pattern to indicate an end of the silence description frame.

20.   (Original) The system of claim 19, further comprising a decoder coupled to an output device.

21.   (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said variable-size packet transmitter comprises a microprocessor to encode active audio in a fixed-size packet.

22.   (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said variable-size packet transmitter comprises a microprocessor to encode a video difference in a fixed-size packet.

23.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein said silence description frame filer comprises microprocessor to store a-the silence description frame.

24-30. (Canceled)